



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

# NOTES FROM THE MEDICAL PRESS



IN CHARGE OF

ELISABETH ROBINSON SCOVIL

ANTITYPHOID VACCINE.—F. F. Russell, M.D., in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, says that antityphoid vaccination is simple and harmless, and wherever used has reduced the incidence and mortality of typhoid and has long since passed the experimental stage. He thinks the time has come when its use should be extended. In 1588 inoculations there were no untoward results. It is expected that in the coming year these inoculations will be greatly extended, particularly among nurses and attendants on the sick.

TREATMENT OF CONSTIPATION BY PARAFFIN ENEMATA.—The *Medical Record*, quoting from a German journal, says: Lipowski's first paper on this subject appeared early in 1909. It was recognized that normal man can retain his fæces for two or three days without drying, while the constipated man exhibits the peculiarity of unnaturally dry fæces from the start. It therefore becomes possible to prevent this drying by enemata. Oil injections for this purpose were recommended by Fleiner in 1893. Its drawbacks are such as may be remedied by paraffin, which must be injected in the fluid state, after which the temperature of the body will serve to maintain it in the liquid form.

SPECIMENS OF GROWING ORGANS OUTSIDE OF THE BODY.—In a synopsis of the proceedings of the Practitioners' Society of New York, the *Medical Journal* says: Drs. Alexis Carrel and Montrose T. Burrows stated that a few weeks ago they had succeeded in cultivating outside of the body adult tissues of mammals and malignant tumors of fowl and man. The starting point of their researches was the work of Harrison on the embryonal tissue of the frog. They adapted his method to warm-blooded animals and used it for the cultivation of adult normal and pathological tissues. The experiments consisted of extirpating small fragments of tissues, of inoculating them aseptically into a plas-matic medium taken from the same animal and of sealing the materials in hollow glass slides. The slides were placed in an incubator, maintained at a constant temperature of 37°. The growth of the cells could,

therefore, be observed and the multiplication of the cells directly seen, during a period of time, with the microscope also kept at body temperature. Connective tissues, cartilage, peritoneum, bone-marrow and bone, skin, thyroid gland, spleen, suprarenal kidney, liver, ovary, testicle, etc., were cultivated successfully. They obtained also a second generation of cells from thyroid cells already grown outside of the body. A very malignant fowl sarcoma was caused to grow luxuriantly outside of the body. The rate of the growth might be very rapid. In one case the surface covered by the new cells eleven hours after the inoculation of the culture medium, was fifteen times larger than the area of the primitive fragments. It had been also possible to cultivate fragments of a human sarcoma, so one might be able to study *in vitro* the growth of the various human malignant tumors.

THE ARTIFICIAL LEECH IN ACUTE MASTOIDITIS.—In a paper read at the annual meeting of the Southern Medical Association, Dr. U. S. Bird, of Tampa, Florida, said that his experience included some nine cases. Clinically they were all instances of typical acute mastoid infection, middle ear disease, raise of temperature, mastoid swelling, and pain. In every case the middle ear had been freely opened without relief. In all of the cases operation seemed probable and in one case the patient was sent to a hospital for that purpose. In some patients heat was used, but in most it was unnecessary after the leech. Calomel was given at first as a routine measure. An improvement was noted at varying intervals after leeching. In every case relief was permanent, no further active treatment being necessary.

OPERATIONS ON NERVOUS WOMEN.—In the *New York Medical Journal*, S. T. Rucker concludes that nervous women, as a rule, do not make good subjects for surgical operation. An operation should not be undertaken, unless there is a definite, unmistakable, pathological lesion that is the chief cause of the nervous symptoms. A correct estimate of the end results of surgical procedures cannot be made unless the surgeon keeps in touch with his patients for months after they return home. In clearing up diagnoses in obscure conditions, every surgeon should seek the aid of a competent internist, neurologist, and pathologist. Last, but not least, to no one is the golden rule more applicable than to the surgeon. When a patient presents herself she seeks relief from suffering. She is not especially anxious "to be cut, but to be cured," and the surgeon should always ask himself the question, "If this was I, my wife, my daughter, would I advise an operation?"

## CURRENT LITERATURE OF INTEREST TO NURSES

"The Decline of the Birth Rate," Editorial, *Medical Record*, January 7; "The Future of Psychotherapy," Theophil Klingmann, M.D., January 14; "Oliver Wendell Holmes; His Work in Establishing the Contagiousness of Child-Bed Fever," T. W. Harvey, M.D., January 21; "Very Restricted Diet (Rice) in Acute Inflammatory Disease of the Skin," L. Duncan Bulkley, M.D., January 28. "End Results of Surgical Operations on Nervous Women," S. T. Rucker, M.D., *New York Medical Journal*, January 7; "Studies of Diet, Nutrition and Growth in Childhood," E. Mather Sill, M.D., January 14; "The Prevention of Syphilis," Editorial, January 21; "When Sedatives are Tonic," William Francis Waugh, M.D., January 28. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, January 7, several articles on Cæsarean section and eclampsia by Drs. Reuben Peterson, Edward H. Cragin, Edward F. Hall, Edward P. Davis, Collin Foulkrod, Joseph B. DeLee, Harry D. Fry; "Prevention of Infant Mortality," Gottfried Koehler, M.D., and C. St. Clair Drake, M.D.; January 28, "Easy and Painless Method of Removing Adhesive Plaster," E. J. G. Beardsley, M.D.; February 4, Papers on "Infant Feeding," by Drs. A. C. Cotton, Thomas S. Southworth, Charles Douglass.

---

WHEN the International Congress on Tuberculosis meets at Rome next September, representatives of over thirty national and provincial associations organized to fight tuberculosis will be present. Among the associations which will be represented are the United States, Canada, Cuba, Trinidad, England, Wales, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Russia, Germany, Belgium, Holland, France, Switzerland, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Hungary, Austria, New Zealand, Japan, Cape Colony, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Newfoundland, Roumania, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

---

ACCORDING to a recent report by Dr. Conrad Biesalski, of Berlin, there are 75,000 cripples in the German Empire out of a population of 60,500,000. Over 50,000 of the cripples are in need of proper treatment. Dr. Biesalski states that in 15 per cent. of the cripples examined, their deformity was due to tuberculosis of the bones and joints, and that there were 10,000 such children in great need of medical treatment. He advocates the establishment of seaside sanatoria for this latter class of cripples.